

**Title: MULTIFUNCTIONAL TELESCOPIC MONOPOLAR/BIPOLAR
SURGICAL DEVICE AND METHOD THEREFORE**

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Cross Reference to Related Applications

[0001]

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This patent application is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 09/977,408 filed October 15, 2001, ^{now U.S. Patent No. 6,702,812} which is a continuation of Serial No. 09/088,386 filed June 1, 1998, issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,355,034, which is a continuation of Serial No. 08/717,494 filed September 20, 1996, now abandoned.

Field of Invention

[0002]

The present invention relates generally to an electrosurgical unit (ESU) pencil. More specifically, the present invention relates to an ESU pencil having a bipolar electrode wherein the active and return electrode are contained within the same tip of the ESU pencil and are separated by a high temperature resistant radio frequency (RF) dielectric. The ESU pencil having a bipolar electrode is designed for use with a monopolar ESU device in a bipolar function for cutting and coagulation in medical procedures. When used with a monopolar ESU device, the ESU pencil having a bipolar electrode can also be used for monopolar application wherein a separate electrode is applied to a part of the patient's body, usually on the patient's leg, to function as the return electrode. This monopolar function is prevalent in the prior art.

[0003]

The present invention also relates to a telescopic laparoscopic monopolar/bipolar ESU pencil having an adjustable length electrode capable of accommodating different depths and/or different sizes of adult and children. The telescopic laparoscopic monopolar/bipolar ESU pencil can also be used with an integrated smoke evacuator system such as that previously described in U.S. Patent